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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY PANDEMIC INFLUENZA UPDATE

November 15, 2008 at 1100

Description of Incident

City of Death Valley is in the midst of a full-scale influenza pandemic.

Current Situation

Hundreds of people in Death Valley are confirmed to have influenza ("the flu"), and some have died. The MUTC hospital has 179 of its 375 beds occupied. A number of those patients are infected with the flu.

State Agencies Active in Response Operations

State Agencies

ISDH, IDHS, ISP, IDEM, DNR, ING - primary

Ag, BOAH, FSSA, State Personnel, DWD, OFBCI, Dept. of Labor - secondary

- According to the ISDH, symptoms of this strain of influenza include: fever (usually high), chills, headache, dry cough, runny/stuffy nose, sore throat, muscle aches, and extreme tiredness.
- State health officials urge residents of Death Valley to follow the following steps to prevent the spread of the flu: Wash hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds in warm, soapy water, especially after sneezing or coughing; Sneeze or cough into your sleeve if a disposable tissue is not available and avoid using handkerchiefs, which can harbor the H7N3 virus; Maintain a "social distance" of 3 to 6 feet when out in public; and Stay home from school or work if you are sick.
- Indiana National Guard continues to provide assistance through our family programs office to families, airman and soldiers as required in the affected area.

Non-Government Agencies

American Red Cross

Health, Safety and Security

Fatalities: 4

Injuries: 123 sick with influenza in Death Valley

Missing: 0

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Contact

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